New Haven Jan 9th — 1843 —

My dear Brother

I received your letter of the 15th ult, the day previous to my leaving Buffalo, i.e. just three weeks since — I could not make out so good an apology for my silence as you did & so I shall let it pass without attempting any — I left B— on Tuesday 20th Dec with very agreeable company & reached this place by way of Springfield on the evening of the following Friday. I remained one night at Rochester, Syracuse & Albany — At the former place I had time sufficient to have called upon our cousins — but having no one to accompany me I was obliged to forego the pleasure — However, as I was leaving for the cars I met Cousin Henry — but as *I* was in haste, we had time but for a word. My journey was very pleasant & comfortable — the weather favorable & ~~without~~ the whole performed without accident or delay. I had expected to come by way of Bridgeport, with my company, a Mr & Mrs Atwater from B—, who were going to Newport — but at Albany I ascertained that by *that* route I should be obliged to ride all night — & I therefore decided that it would be best for me ~~to come~~ by Springfield — Mr A— found a gentleman at the same house with us, who was coming that way — so I left on Friday morning & arrived here at evening — The said gentleman a Mr Ives, a native of *Bristol*, was very polite — He was Yankee enough to enquire out my parentage — & said he had often heard our Father preach —

I find things here pretty much as they were seven months ago except that the beautifying of the interior of the Center Church has been commenced since that period. It is in progress & probably advancing as fast as possible - but there is no prospect of its being occupied before Spring. There are four Italian painters at work upon it & it will certainly be very handsome.

In the mean time, while we have no house of our own, Mr Bacon preaches ~~the~~ the morning at the Chapel st Church & in the afternoon at the North Church - The same sermon at both to prevent his people ~~from~~ following him - It is quite a help to the other clergymen to have the assistance of Mr B - & the congregations are very polite to us - but both minister & people will rejoice when the day comes that we may be permitted to meet again in our own house of worship -

Our friends here are all in pretty good health - Brother George was in this morning & said all were well at home - They have a nice little baby - very pretty looking, & very playful - I suppose Louisa would like much to see him -

Sister Nancy is not well but the rest of the family are particularly so - Willy is full of play from morning till night - He makes some improvement in talking - but still ~~it~~ his progress is slow - Cornelia is in school daily - & when at home much occupied with her studies - She ~~wishes~~ desires me to give her love to Louisa & Mary & says she wishes they would write to her -

There was much less visiting here at the commencement of the year than has been usual for some years past — Charles did not make a single call — though he has heretofore entered largely into the custom — He intended to have made a few but was prevented by the weather & business — He has been much occupied since the fire in "Street's building" — & it is just the time for Insurance You have probably heard that he was *burned* out, or rather driven out of his office by the *water*. He lost nothing, & his books were but slightly wet — It was however a great inconvenience & trouble to him & it was a week or more, before he was resettled — Had the fire broken out in the night much greater loss must have been sustained by the various occupants —

My plan is to spend the winter in New Haven, but I thank you for your kind invitation to *your* home — but of the past twelve months — I have been *here* less than two so I think this place claims me rightly for the present —

I am very glad Louisa is with you — I am sure a residence from home, will be of essential service to her —

My love to sister T — Mary, Emily & Louisa

Your affectionate sister

All send love

Elisabeth

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E. R.
Jan. 10. 1843
Rec'd Jan. 11.

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Rev. Edward Robinson D.D.
New York —